



Arizona State Forestry Division

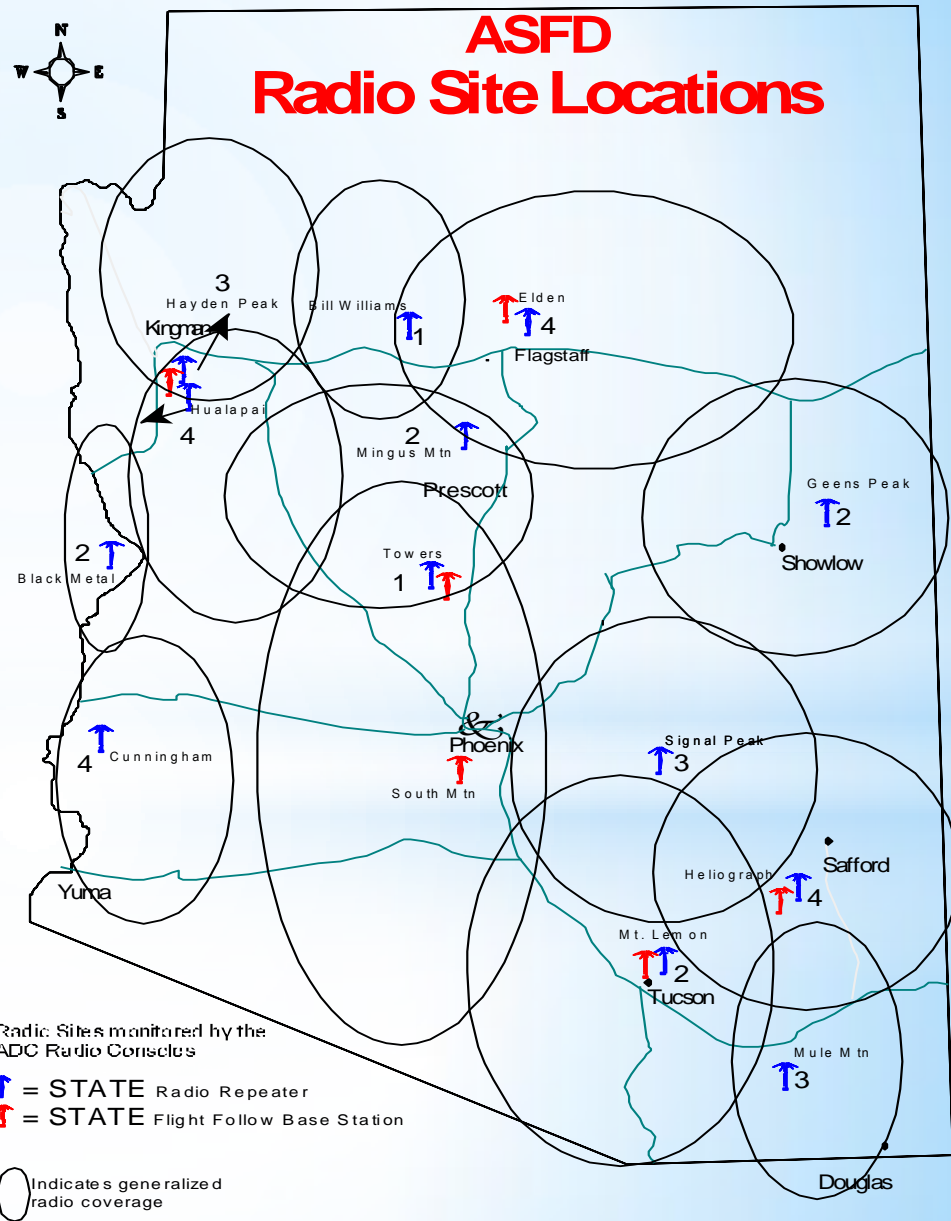
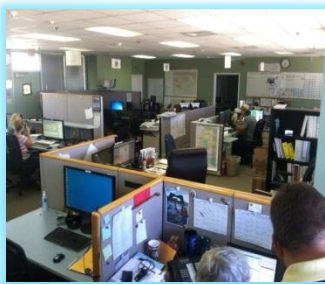
Wildland Fire Communications

- * State of Arizona Cabinet Level agency.... Formerly known as State Fire, or State Lands
- * Responsible for wildland fire protection on 22 million acres of State and Unincorporated Private Lands within Arizona
- * We train, equip and organize firefighting forces, including assisting over 250 Volunteer, Rural, & local Fire Departments
- * Manage and Maintain specialized wildland firefighting apparatus including coordination of up to 15 20-person Inmate wildland firefighting crews through the Arizona Department of Corrections
- * ASFD has distributed over \$6 Million Federal dollars under programs such as; Rural Community Fire Protection Grant monies and within the last 5 years, many communications related equipment projects
- * Other Programs; Manage a statewide aviation program including training and equipping interagency efforts with the AZDPS and Arizona Army National Guard.



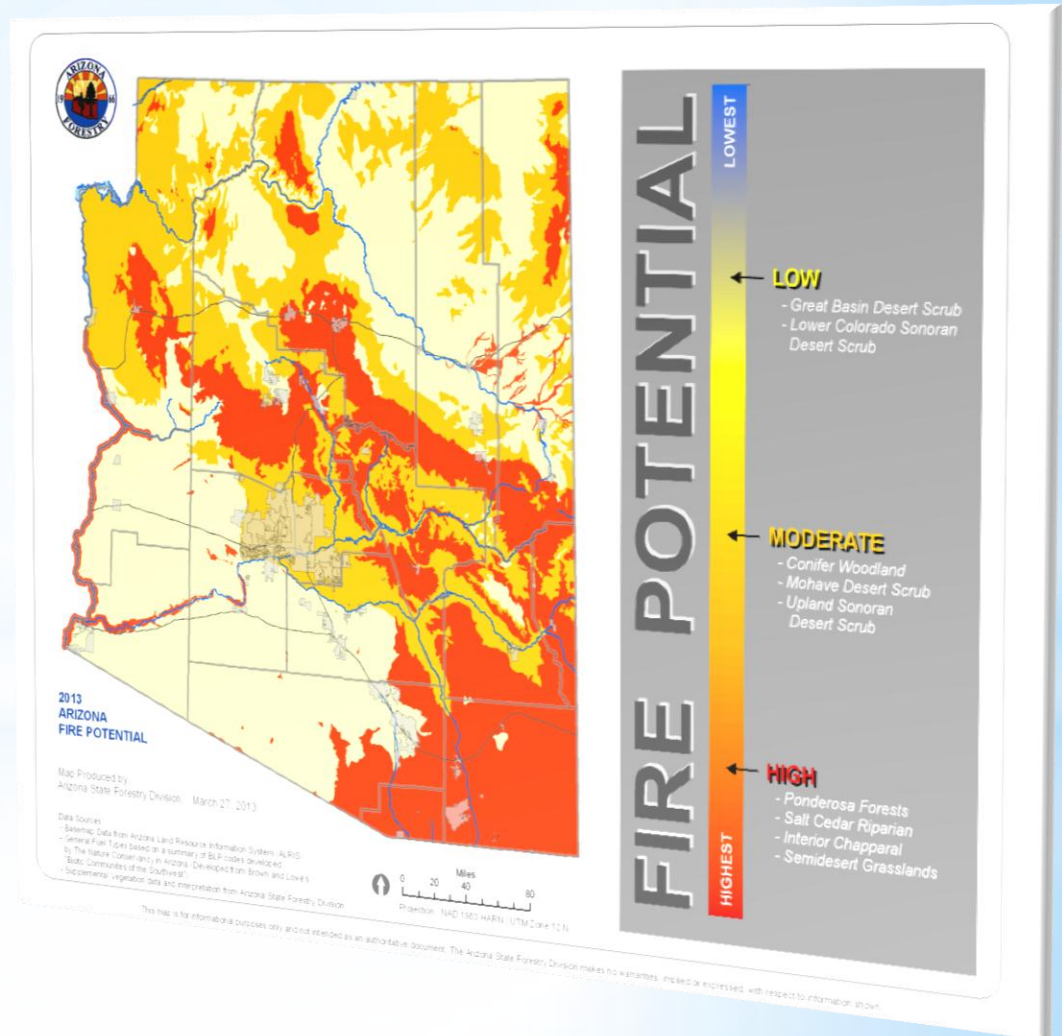
* **Arizona State Forestry Division-**
Who we are....

- * 20 Mountaintop radio sites
- * 10 statewide radio frequencies
- * Statewide Fire Network
- * Statewide Flight Following Network
- * Statewide Interagency Wildland Dispatch & Coordination Center
- * AZDPS Microwave backbone



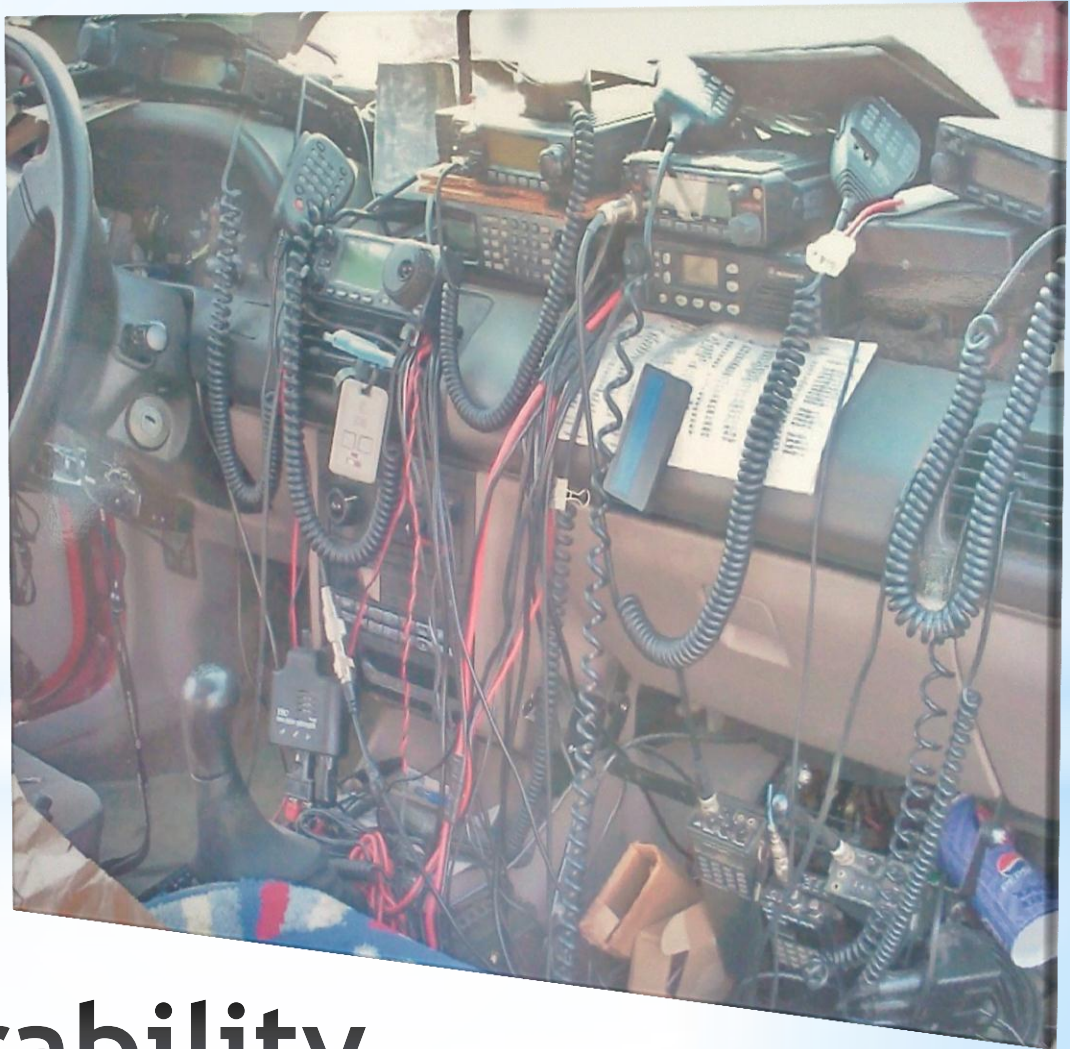
* Arizona State Forestry Radio System

- * **Statewide General Fire Season Forecast for 2013**
- * Similar to last year's fire season, the concern for higher wildfire potential will generally be above our 3000 foot elevations.
- * Sonoran Deserts in Maricopa, Pinal, and Yavapai Counties may show a moderate increase in fire potential this year as compared to the last few years due to a increase in annual grass production. March snows have pushed off the start of fire season in the higher elevations by a few weeks, but remaining snowpack is rapidly diminishing.
- * Any further precipitation received this spring will be helpful in delaying the start of fire season, but current National Climate Center predictions show below average precipitation probabilities for April.
- * What does this mean???? Hot & Dry



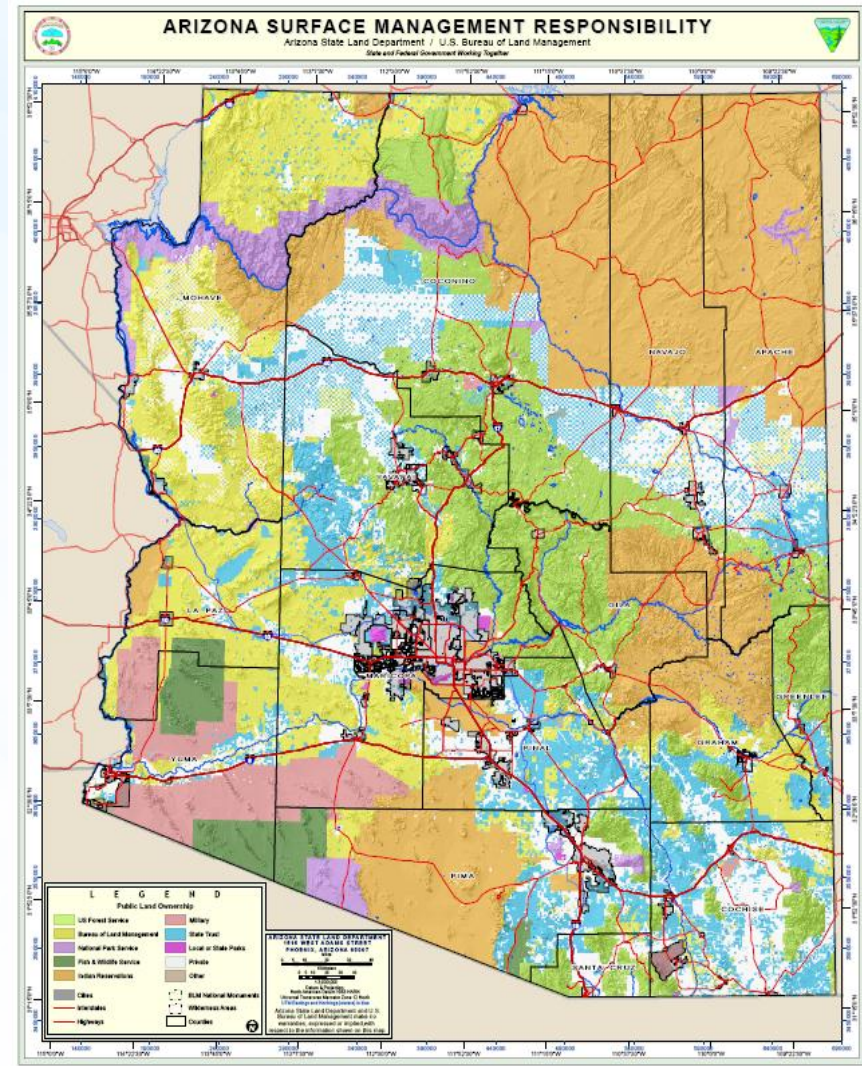
* Fire Season Outlook

- * Because Wildland fire does not follow boundaries..... We encounter many incidents that prove to be Interoperability Challenges primarily due to vast amount of multiple jurisdictions and wildland emergency response agencies that could be involved within wildland fire incidents



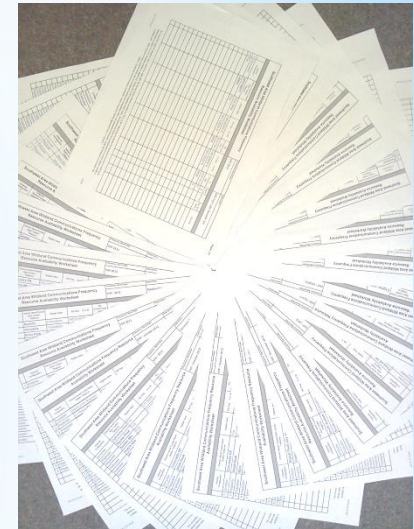
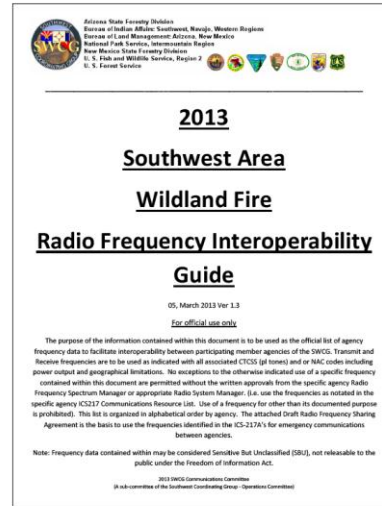
Interoperability Challenges

- * Wildland Fire occurs within all jurisdictions including;
- * County, City and local governments, Fire Districts
- * Arizona State Lands
- * Bureau of Land Management
- * US National Forests
- * National Park Service
- * Bureau of Indian Affairs
- * US Fish & Wildlife Service
- * Most wildfires occurring within Arizona are interagency and require the assistance of interagency partners
- * So, how do we communicate amongst ourselves.....



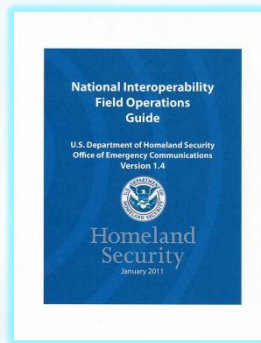
* Interagency Partners

- * Use of existing wildland fire agency radio systems....
- * Early season radio programming of interagency partner frequencies
- * Documentation of authorized frequencies - ICS217A's
- * 46 pages of ICS217A's for Southwest
- * Document control very important
- * Ensure that proper Radio Frequency Authorizations RFA's are completed

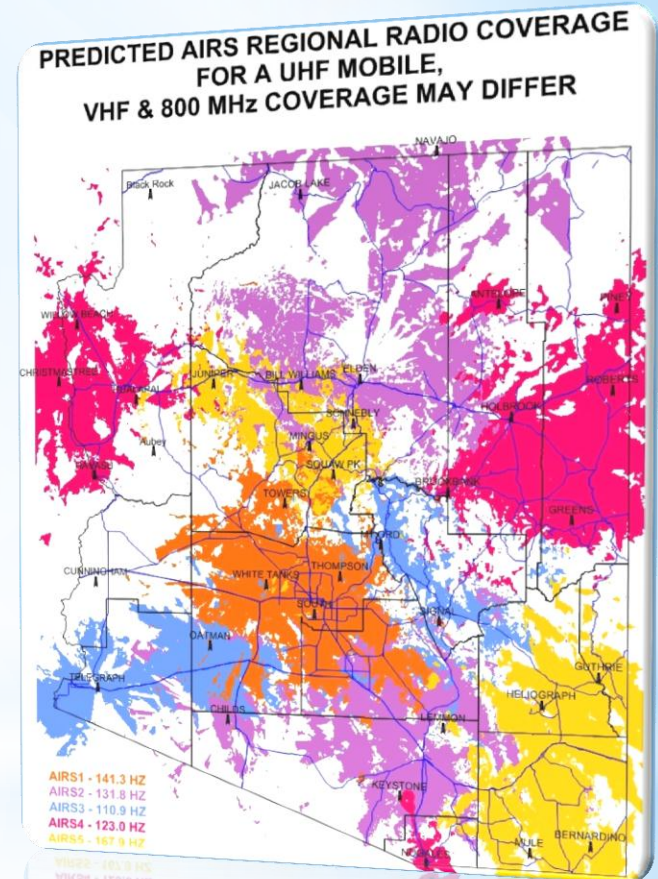
[illegible]

Southwest Wildland Fire Communications

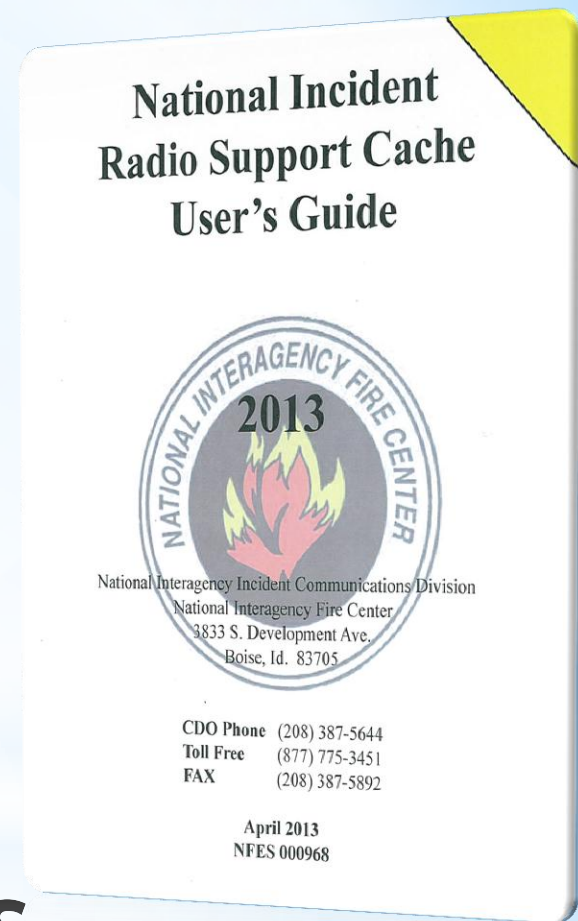
- * AIRS- Suites and VTACS are an invaluable asset for interagency interoperability needs on interagency wildland fire incidents
- * NIFOG- National Interoperability Field Operations Guide



* Arizona Interoperability Radio Resources

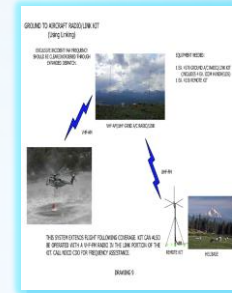


- * Other communications resources available - Wildland Incident use
- * <http://www.nifc.gov/NIICD/documents>



* Other Resources- NIICD- Radio Cache's

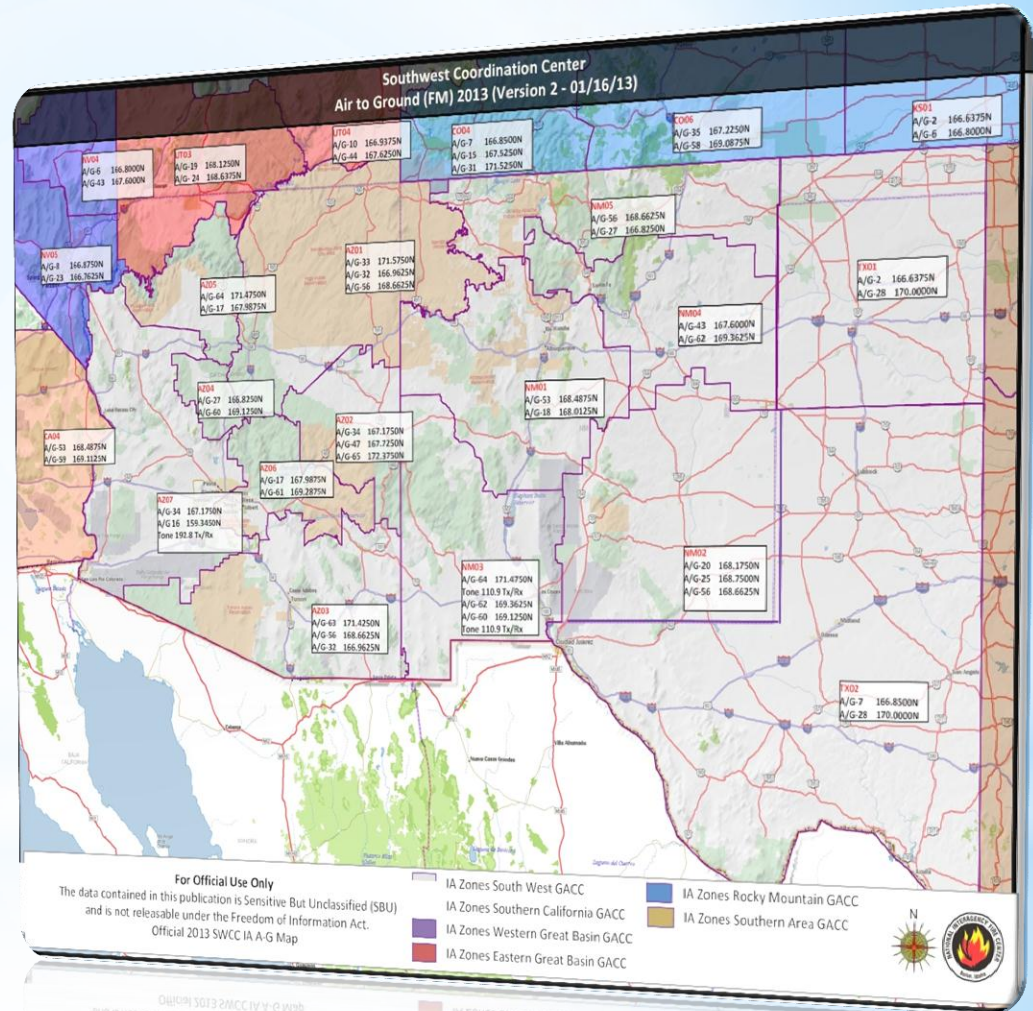
- * UHF Repeater kits
- * VHF Command Repeater kits
- * Portable Radio kits
- * Remote radio Link kits
- * Tactical repeater kits
- * Aircraft base radio kits
- * Etc....



* NIICD Cache Equipment



- * VFIRE 21- Fire Mutual Aid - use other resources- VTAC's, ASFD Tac's....
- * Aviation Assets- use of frequencies while airborne....Air-to-Ground Frequencies - Recognize the need-first responders to have capability on A-G
- * Air-to-Air Frequencies - awareness of these frequencies



* Other Challenges

**Questions, Comments,
Suggestions.....**

Thank You.

Arizona State Forestry Division - Communications Section

Dale Brown- Manager
602-319-1232
dalebrown@azsf.gov

